

WO-244
Homewood
Berlin
private

c. 1840

Standing along the old Berlin-Libertytown Road on the perimeter of Berlin is Homewood, the long-time residence Dr. Zadock Purnell Henry. The Homewood estate of the Johns Hopkins University is thought to be the inspiration for Dr. Henry's decision to call his own home by the same name. The two-story, four-room plan main block is distinguished by well-preserved nineteenth-century finishes including the shingled exterior, the nine-over-six sash windows, and the Federal style stair and mantels. Covering the east side of the main house is a generous two-story porch that has been an integral part of the dwelling since the turn of the century. Extending southward is a two-story wing as well as the old single-story kitchen. According to architectural evidence and Henry family tradition, the dining room section was formerly a single-story colonnade that was raised during the late nineteenth century to its two-story elevation.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Homewiro

MHT Inventory Number: NO - 244

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1815 - 1870 Agricultural - Industrial Transition

4) Resource Type(s):

1. SOARING STRUCTURES

a. SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS

b. outbuildings.

1. SMOKE HOUSE

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-244

Magi No. 2402445404

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic HOMEWOOD

and/or common

2. Location

street & number South side of Berlin-Libertytown Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Berlin ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. Daniel S. Moore, Jr.

street & number Homewood telephone no.:

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-244

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Homewood is located on the south side of the Berlin-Libertytown Road in Berlin, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces north with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1840, this two-story, four-room plan house is supported by a partially excavated common bond brick foundation, and it is uniformly sheathed with wood shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending southward from the main block is a two-story, three-bay dining room and service wing. According to Henry family history the center section of the wing was rebuilt from a single-story colonnade to the full two-story elevation. An old frame smoke house now enlarged and converted to a work shop stands southeast of the service wing.

The north (principal) elevation is an asymmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash windows that retain original louvered shutters hung on wrought-iron ell-shaped hinges. A beveled edge surround molding frames the windows as well as the long two-panel front door. Sheltering the first floor is a shed roofed porch supported by square posts. The second floor is lighted by two six-over-six sash windows. Finishing the base of the roof is a boxed cornice.

The east side of the main house is largely covered by a two-story square post porch that retains a sawn baluster handrail on the second floor. Piercing the two-bay elevation is a side door and a nine-over-six sash window. The side door topped by a three-light transom comprises a twentieth-century change from the nine-over-six sash window that originally filled the opening. The adjacent bay to the north is still marked by a nine-over-six sash window flanked with louvered shutters. The second floor is defined by a door in the north bay, altered from a former window opening, and an adjacent six-over-six sash window. The attic is illuminated by a pair of two-over-two sash windows that flank the interior end brick chimney. The eaves are presently extended beyond the wall surface of the main block.

The west gable end of the main block is a two-bay elevation as well with nine-over-six sash windows lighting the first floor and six-over-six sash windows illuminating the second floor. Louvered shutters remain on these windows as well. As with the east end the interior end brick chimney is flanked by a pair of two-over-two attic windows.

Extending from the south side of the main block is a two-story, three-bay service wing with the old single-story kitchen attached to the back of the wing. Both the first and second floors are lighted by six-over-six sash windows, and the openings are framed by beveled edge moldings. Rising through the center of the house is an interior brick stack that services the dining room. Unlike the rest of the house the single-story kitchen is sheathed with a combination of plain weatherboards and round-butt shingles. Fixed to the back of the old kitchen is an exterior brick stove stack.

(continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-244

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Homewood is one of the prominent nineteenth-century dwellings that stands on the perimeter of Berlin. The two-story, four-room plan house was built during the second quarter of the nineteenth-century, probably around 1840. Late Federal style woodwork, two-panel doors, nine-over-six sash windows combined with cut-nail construction throughout the dwelling supports the estimated date. Originally the house evidently followed the standard telescope form with a single-story colonnade that connected the one-room kitchen to the main house. Around 1890-1900 the house was extensively reworked which comprised a raising of the colonnade to a two-story elevation, in addition to a rebuilding the roof of the main house. A two-story porch has been an important part of the house since the turn of the century as well.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Survey No. WO-244

The four-room interior has been modified somewhat with the consolidation of the western two rooms into one long rectangular space. A narrow center passage divides the quartered plan. Located in the northeast corner is the stair which rises in front of the east gable end window. A slender turned newel post and slight rectangular balusters support a delicate circular-profile handrail. The stringer is plain, and the area below is defined by long unadorned rectangular panels. A two-panel door opens into the stair closet. Access to the partially excavated cellar is provided under the stair. The western consolidated space retains a corner hearth that heated the front room. A late Federal style mantel with plain pilasters and a paneled frieze is finished with a stepped shelf. The pair of frieze panels have a stepped molding as well. The southwest room, now joined to the front room by a large opening has been remodeled with the addition of built-in bookcases along the west wall. Apparently, this room was never heated directly with a fireplace. The southeast room, on the other hand, now the kitchen, retains a corner hearth as well with an identical late Federal style mantel. This room is soon to be converted to a study, and the kitchen is to be removed to the back of the house.

The second floor is divided by a center hall with bedrooms and a bathroom to each side. There is a small sitting space at the head of the stair with access to the second floor porch. A shift in the width of the flooring at a point even with the stair railing suggests the railing was shortened during the late nineteenth century to accommodate a door to the second floor porch. The bedrooms are simply finished with mid nineteenth-century molded baseboards and doors.

The two-story former colonnade section has been reworked as a dining room. Fixed on the south wall is a projecting chimney stack that is distinguished by a mid nineteenth-century style mantel with a paneled frieze and a plain shelf. Adjacent to the hearth is a door opening to the rear part of the house, which is currently being reworked as a new kitchen. A bay window has been attached to the east side of the dwelling to allow additional light, while formerly exterior shingles and floor joists have been exposed. The interior of the former kitchen, the southernmost section, has not been changed since the turn of the century, and it retains old plaster and narrow beaded board wainscoting. Fixed in the southeast corner of the room is an enclosed winder stair that rises to the one-room second floor. Built-in closets are located across the west wall.

The second floor of the service wing is relatively plain. Shallow four-panel doors permit movement between three rooms, and another enclosed stair provides access to the main attic. The common rafter roof structure of the entire house appears to have been extensively reworked around the turn of the century. Butt jointed rafter ends, circular sawn lumber and cut nails are common features throughout. The gable ends of the main house are stud framed with horizontal rails nailed at regular intervals to receive the wood shingles.

BERLIN

WORCESTER CO.

1877 LAKE, GRIFFIN AND
STEVENSON ATLAS



BERLIN BUSINESS REFERENCE

- JAMES C. DIRICKSON**, Physician.
S. P. REED, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes, Hats, Caps, and Notions. Goods usually kept in a country store.
JAS. M. BRATTEN, Dealer in Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, and Groceries.
JOHN W. STATION, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, and Merchandise.
H. R. PITTS, President of Wilcombe R. R. Office at Berlin.
R. J. HENRY, Treasurer of Wilcombe R. R. Office at Berlin.
J. Z. POWELL, Proprietor of Atlas Hotel. House located on Sinepuxuntine south-east of Berlin. Noted as a good place for Geese, Ducks, and various game. Accommodations good and prices low.
T. MUMFORD, Carpenter, C. Builder.
E. WEST, Carpenter.
S. E. WISE, Cabinet Maker and Upholsterer.
W. CONNAWAY, Stock Dealer.
W. ARDY, Tanner and Currier. Price paid for hides and bark.
M. J. POWELL, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes at Tannery.
PETER FORBUSH, Blacksmith.

WO-244
HOMEWOOD
Berlin, MD Quadrangle, 1967

